

# AT THE THEATRES THIS WEEK

**ACADEMY OF MUSIC.**  
Tuesday, Wednesday and Wednesday matinee, "The Girl of the Golden West."  
Thursday, matinee and night—Al H. Wilson, in "Metz in Ireland."  
Friday night—"A Stubborn Cinderella."  
Saturday, matinee and night—Cecily Bellow, in "The Builder of Bridges."  
**BIJOU THEATRE.**  
Cecil Spooner, in "The Little Terror."  
**LUBIN THEATRE.**  
Vaudeville.

"The Girl of the Golden West," written, staged and presented by David Belasco's own company, will be the



**WRIGHT KRAMER.**  
Who will deliver the Burton Holmes Travel Talks at the Academy in January.

offering at the Academy on Tuesday and Wednesday and Wednesday matinee. The play has been one of the truly great successes in New York. Continuing through the winter and spring months, it crowded the Belasco Theatre at every performance until late midsummer when the company was given a fortnight's vacation. The engagement was resumed in August, and up to the very time of the company's departure from New York the nightly audiences were as large and as commendatory as those during the first weeks of the play. This was followed later in the season with four weeks at the Academy of Music to record-breaking audiences.

"The Girl of the Golden West" is a four-act play of California in the days of '49, written by Mr. Belasco and produced in person by him. The roughness that distinguished life in the Sierra Nevada during the gold fever period is truthfully shown, but the

poetry which surcharged the atmosphere in which adventurous spirits, such as Jack Rance, reach their highest development, has also been used as a toning fluid. Thus while none of the strength of the crude characters of the time is lost, their attractiveness is accentuated and made doubly impressive.

"The Girl of the Golden West" is a production, is a wonderful feat of stagecraft. The scene shows the Sierra Nevada Mountains in midwinter with a vividness that has elicited the highest praise. The scenic effects include a blight storm along the mountain pass, and sunrise at the base of the hills, and there has never been anything credited to Mr. Belasco that has exceeded these in beauty and strength.

"Metz in Ireland."  
Al H. Wilson, the singing ambassador of German dialect, under the management of Sidney R. Ellis, will bring his new musical drama, "Metz in Ireland," to this city on Thursday, matinee and night. The play is unlike anything Wilson has ever appeared in, and it is said to be much better. It overflows with pathos, has a pleasant vein of comedy and delightful music. The songs are woven into the play and are not added to gain additional effect. The story tells of the adventures and love of a German rover in the land of the shamrock, where he becomes a firm believer in the good little fairies made famous in Irish song and story. The central character in "Metz in Ireland" is Metz Klonikilly, portrayed by Mr. Wilson, the son of an Irish earl. Metz is heir to a large estate in Ireland, and for the purpose of establishing his claim to the property he journeys to Ireland. Before he makes known his identity he becomes a great friend to the Irish tenants of the estate, for whom he is ever ready to sing their native songs and the songs of his fatherland.

"A Stubborn Cinderella."  
"A Stubborn Cinderella," the quality play, by the authors of "The Time, the Place and the Girl," will be the attraction at the Academy Friday night. This time, however, the show is of an entirely different character from the plays these authors have given us in the past. Instead of depicting characters in the middle class, they have reached up a bit and brought into being titled aristocracy from Scotland and well-to-do Americans.  
Mort H. Singer, in producing "A Stubborn Cinderella," has provided a most capable company for the engagement here. With Harry Stone at its head, it is ably supported by a big company, with Miss Grace Edmond in the leading female role. Others in the cast are W. H. White, Lester Crawford, Lillian Goldsmith, Charles Haigh, Francis Pierlot, Claire Wolfe and Josephine Baird, a big chorus of show girls, with good voices, pretty faces and wearing some dazzling costumes, adds much towards making the show a success.

Quite a number of distinct songs have been sung, the best, perhaps, being "When You First Kiss the Last Girl You Love," "What's the Use?" "Don't Be Cross with Me," "If They'd Only Let Adam's Rib Alone," "Don't Be Anybody's Moon but Mine," "I'm in Love with All the Girls I Know" and "Love Me Just Because."

"The Builder of Bridges."  
Kyrle Bellow, who has long since won recognition in Great Britain, America, Australia and, in fact, throughout the English-speaking world, and of later years has appeared in various stellar roles under different managements in America, is to make his initial appearance here as a Charles Frohman star, under the managerial auspices of that Napoleon of producers, in Alfred Sutro's powerful play in four acts, entitled "The Builder of Bridges," at the Academy New Year's, matinee and night.

The superb supporting company provided for "The Builder of Bridges" is especially noteworthy, in that it is composed of such well-known and thoroughly competent artists as Miss Gladys Hanson, leading woman with E. H. Sothern last season; Mrs. Thomas Whitford, Frances Comstock, Jane May, De Witt Jennings, Frank Connor, Eugene O'Brien and Ernest Stollard. The play comes direct from a long season at the Hudson Theatre, New York, with the entire original cast intact and absolutely the identical New York production, presented precisely the same as at the Hudson.

"The Little Terror."  
Perhaps the most popular comedienne playing this city in a theatrical year is Miss Cecil Spooner. The announcement that Miss Spooner is to be the New Year's week attraction at the Bijou Theatre is pretty sure to pack that playhouse for the entire week. This year Miss Spooner has a new play, a comedy of three acts, called "The Little Terror," from the pen of Amelia Weed Holbrook, who dramatized Fitz James McCarthy's short story of the same name. Miss Spooner has a role that is her every requirement, gives free scope for her ability. She has an abundance of bright, sparkling comedy which her true sense of humor makes delightful; touching pathos which her keen intelligence renders charming; ridiculous funny situations which her comedy makes uproarious.

On Friday there will be a special extra matinee, when Miss Spooner is to present three one-act plays called "Nan, the Good-for-Nothing," an old-fashioned English comedy, "Between Two



Scene from David Belasco's production, "The Girl of the Golden West," at the Academy Tuesday and Wednesday matinee.



**CECIL SPOONER,**  
at the Bijou.

Forta," a military drama, with its scenes laid in a military camp in the far West, and "Queen of the Music Halls." Both the latter plays are by Miss Spooner. The "Queen of the Music Halls" promises to be a treat for those that have never been initiated to the mysteries back of the footlights. It is a story of stage life. A rehearsal or a musical play is gone over, the scenes are set and all the preparations that are the usual run back of the curtain line are shown to the audience.

This year Miss Spooner will give Mendelssohn's "Spring Song" as her dancing number. This is Miss Spooner's own conception of the beautiful masterpiece.

At the Lubin.

For New Year's week the Lubin will present a diversified bill of attractive novelties in vaudeville and pictures.

Heading the roster of vaudeville entertainers will be Holt and Armstrong, presenting a high-class comedy sketch, introducing singing, dancing and talking features.

Palmer and LaRue will offer a superb novelty musical message, playing on a number of musical instruments in a way that will be sure to please.

Si Vad and Inez, billed as "amazing flexorignallists," will present what will prove to be the most diversified vaudeville novelty yet seen here. In addition to a wonderful display of acrobatic

perfection there will be several character singing specialties and an abundance of clever comedy in their offering.

There will be several attractive films of entertaining pictures.

**Holmes's Travelogues.**

Few living men have seen so much of the world and have told of their travels so well and so entertainingly as Burton Holmes. It is one thing to be a good traveler; it is another thing to keep one's eyes open and see all that is to be seen. It is also still another thing to be able to take photographs of the scenes most inspiring, most alluring, most fascinating and most dangerous. It is still another thing to combine all those happy attributes and tell the world what one has seen in word-paintings that are in consonance with the marvels of photography. Mr. Holmes has amply proved to the world that he is a good traveler, a rare student, an exceptional photographer and a most charming, convincing speaker, bright in narrative and exact in detail.

The subjects to be given here by Mr. Kramer, Mr. Holmes's fellow-traveler, are the same as those used by Mr. Holmes personally last year—namely, "Hawaii," "New Japan To-Day," "Old Japan To-Day," "Java" and "More About Paris." Mr. Kramer will give the travelogues word for word and will show the same pictures as did Mr. Holmes.

**"Fads and Fancies."**

One of the social and musical events of the season will be the presentation of "Fads and Fancies" at the City Auditorium in January, under the auspices of the Young Men's Society of Grace Street Baptist Church, and the George E. Pickett Camp of Confederate Veterans.

Mrs. Edwards, general commander-in-chief of the United Confederate Choirs of America, will be in charge.

**WANTS MISSOURI'S BEST**

Columbia, Mo., December 25.—It now appears that W. W. Roper will coach next year at whatever school makes the highest bid for his services—Missouri or Princeton.

The athletic authorities in Columbia have received a letter from him asking them to make him a definite offer. Strenuous efforts are being made at the university to enable the athletic committee to outbid Princeton for Roper's services.

The committee realizes that the money to pay Roper must be raised at the university. Alumni promises seldom materialize. Last year the alumni pledged all of the \$2,500 that was needed to pay Roper. Members of the athletic committee say that it is more than \$100 was collected, and that the remainder had to be paid from subscriptions at the university and gate receipts. It is believed here that \$2,500 could be raised, but President A. Ross Hill declares such a figure far too great for nine weeks' services.

**WILL BOX IN PARIS**

Billy Papke and Willie Lewis Are to Meet Next Month.

NEW YORK, December 25.—Billy Papke, the "Illinois Thunderbolt," is going to Paris to fight. He has been matched to meet Willie Lewis, the clever New York middleweight, now on the other side, for twenty-rounds at the Cirque de Paris the latter part of January.

Victor Breyer, the well-known sporting man of France, who is manager of the big fight club at Paris, completed all details for the contest by getting Papke's consent to go over and fight Lewis.

Papke and Lewis fought a great six-round battle at Pittsburgh several weeks ago, and as Papke has been clamoring for a return battle with Lewis, he lost no time in accepting the terms offered by the French fight promoter.



**KYRLE BELLEW,**  
in "The Builder of Bridges," at the Academy New Year's, Matinee and night.

**ACADEMY, New Year's**  
MATINEE AND NIGHT.

CHARLES FROHMAN PRESENTS

**KYRLE BELLEW**  
IN

**"THE BUILDER OF BRIDGES"**  
By ALFRED SUTRO.

Author of "The Walls of Jericho."  
With the Original New York Cast and Production Absolutely Intact.  
Direct from the Hudson Theatre, New York City.

PRICES: Matinee, 25c to \$1.50; Night, 50c to \$2.00.

**Academy of Music,** Tuesday & Wednesday  
December 28th & 29th  
MATINEE WEDNESDAY.

FIRST TIME IN RICHMOND.

**DAVID BELASCO**

ANNOUNCES HIS OWN UNEXCELLED COMPANY IN HIS GREATEST TRIUMPH.

**"The Girl of the Golden West"**

A Story of California in the Days of '49.  
As Presented for Two Consecutive Years at the Belasco Theatre, New York.

PRICES: Night, 25c to \$1.50; Matinee, 25c to \$1.00.

**ACADEMY, Thursday**

MATINEE AND NIGHT.

Sidney R. Ellis Presents the Singing Ambassador of German Dialect,

**AL. H. WILSON**

IN HIS NEW MUSICAL PLAY,

**METZ IN IRELAND**

A German Rover's Adventures on Erin's Isle.  
Interpreted by a Company of Artists Which Includes a Large Singing Chorus.

SPECIAL SCENERY AND ELECTRICAL EFFECTS.

Wilson's New Songs: "Love Thoughts," "Erin's Isle," "The Banshee," "The Nightingale Song" and "Mixed German." Additional music numbers by a competent chorus.

PRICES: Matinee, 25c to \$1.00; Night, 25c to \$1.50.

**ACADEMY OF MUSIC.**

**BURTON HOLMES**

Colored Views TRAVELOGUES Motion Pictures  
Delivered by WRIGHT KRAMER

OUR OWN HAWAII, JAN. 5 NEW JAPAN, JAN 20  
JAVA, JANUARY 27 MORE ABOUT PARIS, FEB. 3

SALE COURSE TICKETS THURSDAY DEC. 30, CLOSES  
\$3.00, \$2.50 and \$2.00 Sat Jan. 1.

Single Tickets, \$1.00, 75c and 50c, on Sale Monday, January 3. Unreserved, 25c, on Day.

**...ACADEMY OF MUSIC...**

ONE NIGHT, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31st.

Mort H. Singer's \$50,000 Quality Musical Play.  
The Biggest Musical Comedy Success in Richmond This Season.

**A Stubborn Cinderella**

With HARRY STONE

Superlative Cast and Ensemble of Eighty People.  
Lovers of Catchy Music and Pretty Girls Can't Afford to Miss It.  
One Year, Princess Theatre, Chicago.  
Six Months, Broadway Theatre, New York.  
Six Months, Boston and Philadelphia.

PRICES: Night, 25c, 50c, 75c, \$1.00, \$1.50. Seat sale to-morrow.

**BIJOU THEATRE**

RICHMOND'S POPULAR PLAYHOUSE.

COMMENCING MONDAY, DECEMBER 27

THE DAINTY COMEDienne

**MISS CECIL SPOONER**

IN THE  
RIPPLING, LAUGHING,  
COMEDY HIT

**THE LITTLE TERROR**  
BY AMELIA WEED HOLBROOK

A COMEDY FAIRLY BUBBLING WITH  
SPARKLING AND DELICIOUS FUN

SPECIAL MATINEE FRIDAY.  
Miss Spooner, assisted by the entire company, will present three one-act plays.

A BILL OF SUPERIOR FEATURES.

**THE LUBIN**

HOLT AND ARMSTRONG, High Class Comedy.  
PALMER AND LARUE, Novelty Musical Artists,  
SIYAD AND INEZ, Amazing Flexorignallists.

Every One a Feature. The World's Best Pictures  
Performances, 2:30 to 6 and 7:15 to 10:30 Daily.



**AL. H. WILSON,**  
in "Metz in Ireland," at the Academy Thursday, matinee and night.



The Hokey Girls, in "A Stubborn Cinderella." There are fifty more just as pretty. The biggest musical comedy success of the season—at the Academy.